

Pontiac council - flood response to be evaluated

Mo Laidlaw

The regular meeting of Pontiac's council was held on the 16th January 2018 at the Marcel Lavigne community centre in Luskville, with about 16 members of the public in attendance.

Public input

Pat Lusk asked that the plaques commemorating war veterans of Eardley township (moved from the community centre to inside the town hall), should be refinished and names added where necessary. She was one of the residents who in 1984 researched names for the plaques and the stone memorial next to the town hall. She obtained the stone from Gatineau Park with the help of Jean Pigott, then chair of the National Capital Commission.

Jean-Claude Carisse suggested that basic work need to be done on ch Tremblay which subsides every year.

The Budget bylaw was adopted.

Property tax rate is 0.5964 per \$100 in 2018 for most properties. Additional taxes for loans increase the rate to 0.6478. Some residents will pay local improvement taxes for paving.

In addition there are service fees:

Garbage, one bin \$156.00, Recycling, one bin \$80.54. (Higher fees for containers, going up to \$6,103 for a 10 cu yd garbage container and \$2,900 for a 10 cu yd recycling container).

For drinking water, residences in Quyon, \$397.71 plus \$135.97 for loan repayment.

For sewers, residences in Quyon, \$280.56

Residents received detailed information on the municipal budget in their mail, and there is also information on the municipal web site, see "Taxation & finances."

Councillor Leslie-Anne Barber was named as pro-mayor. Mayor Joanne Labadie and Councillor Susan McKay were named as municipal representatives for the Office of Municipal Housing. The mayor and Councillor Nancy Draper-Maxsom were named as municipal representatives to the Quyon Port Authority.

Evaluation of flood response

Jean Perras has been awarded a contract for \$21,700 to carry out an evaluation of Pontiac's response to the floods. Identifying the lessons learned will be used to update the emergency measures plan. Consultations will be held with citizens, municipal employees and partners. M. Perras was Deputy Director of the branch of CIDA responsible for natural disaster operations and disaster reduction programs in developing countries. He studied planning and emergency preparedness in this context. From 2013 to 2015, he participated in the strategic planning for the reconstruction of downtown Lac-Mégantic. He is former mayor of the Municipality of Chelsea and former prefect of the MRC des Collines, and is well aware of the issues and the workings of various levels of government.

Pontiac studio tour

The ministry of Transport requires municipalities to authorize the installation of temporary signs along provincial roads. Pontiac resolved to allow the Pontiac Artists Association to put up temporary signs for the next five years for the studio tour held on the second and third weekends in June.

Pontiac is applying for \$20,000 from Municipal affairs (MAMOT) and a further \$20,000 from the CLD des Collines, to investigate the possibility of sharing sports and leisure equipment with La Pêche, Chelsea and Cantley, with Pontiac as the developer of this project.

Pierre-Louis Chartrand was thanked for his years of service as inspector in the planning department and as a volunteer firefighter. He has resigned.

Expenses approved

Invoices amounting to \$116,704 and fixed and pre-approved expenses of \$698,402 for December 2017, and incurred expenses for January 2018 of \$14,276.

Minutes of council meetings contain the full text of bylaws and are posted on the municipal website: www.municipalitepontiac.com

Mo's reports are archived at: www.heritagepontiac.ca/Municipality